

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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21

ACTION PPTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 /014 W
----- 119578

P 110955Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 612

UNCLAS USBERLIN 465

DEPT FOR PT/DC AND EUR/CE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPAS, PFOR, PGOV, GE, WB

SUBJECT: GERMAN PERMIT STAMP

REFS: (A) STATE 048475; (B) USBERLIN 44

1. FOLLOWING MAY ASSIST EMBASSY IN REPLYING REF A.
2. TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS ON BRITISH PRACTICE AS REPORTED REF B, MISSION CONTACTED ADMIN OFFICER BRITISH MILITARY GOVERNMENT (BMG) WHO CONFIRMED THAT SOF AND COMMANDANT STAMPS WERESNO RPT NO LONGER PLACED IN PASSPORTS OF BMG (FOREIGN OFFICE) PERSONNEL, WHO USE THEIR I.D. CARDS FOR IDENTIFICATION. DEPENTS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL, HOWEVER, STILL RECEIVE SOFA AND COMMANDANT STAMPS, WHICH SERVE IN LIEU OF GERMAN RESIDENCE PEJMITS.
3. AS NOTED REF B WE BELIEVE COMMANDANT'S STAMP SERVES USEFUL PURPOSE FOR MEMBERS OF US FORCES, BERLIN, SINCE THERE IS LONG FAMILIARITY WITH IT AMONG GERMAN OFFICIALS, WHO REGARD IT AS EQUIVALENT OF RESIDENCE PERMIT AND PROOF, IN BOTH BERLIN AND FRG, OF HOLDER'S SPECIAL STATUS WITH RESPECT TO CUSTOMS AND OTHER PRIVILEGES OR IMMUNITIES. WHILE OTHER DOCUMENTATION MIGHT BE DEvised OR ADOPTED, WE DOUBT NEED FOR CHANGE IN BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL POLICY. (IN MOST INSTANCES WE NOW TRAVEL ACCESS ROUTES ON ID CARD RATHER THAN PASSPORT, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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WE SEE NO HARM IN GDR VISA COEXISTING IN PASSPORT WHICH

ALSO HAS COMMANDANT'S STAMP.)GEORGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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